
SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

OF

The Columbia Institution

FOR THE

DEAF AND DUMB, AND BLIND,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1859.

REPORT

OF

THE COLUMBIA INSTITUTION

FOR THE

INSTRUCTION OF THE DEAF, DUMB, AND BLIND,

FOR THE YEAR 1859.

WASHINGTON:
GEORGE W. BOWMAN, PRINTER.
1860.

Extract from the Annual Report of the Secretary of the Interior to Congress of December 1, 1859.

From the accompanying report of the president of the institution for the instruction of the deaf and dumb and the blind, it will be seen that, during the last year, fourteen deaf mutes and seven blind pupils participated in the benefits of that institution, all of whom, with a single exception, were supported at the expense of the United States, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved the 16th February, 1857. The amount drawn from the treasury on this account, and for salaries and incidental expenses paid by the government, as authorized by the act of May 29, 1858, was \$5,451 96, in addition to which, the institution received from other sources \$1,158 32. It will also be perceived, that a new and more commodious building has been erected for the accommodation of this unfortunate class of the community, at the expense of the president of the institution, and which he generously proposes to present to it, "upon the sole condition that provision shall be made and continued for the instruction of the deaf and dumb and the blind of the District of Columbia, by public appropriations, or by private charity." It remains for Congress to determine what action, if any, shall be taken regarding this proposition, and such other suggestions as are made by that officer.

REPORT.

COLUMBIA INSTITUTION FOR THE INSTRUCTION OF THE
DEAF AND DUMB AND THE BLIND,
November 5, 1859.

SIR: In compliance with the acts of Congress incorporating and providing for the support of this institution, I have the honor to report its operations during the last year, and its condition on the first day of July last.

For detailed information, I respectfully refer you to the superintendent's report, transmitted herewith.

"Appendix A," annexed to that report, shows that during last year the institution received from private subscriptions \$875.

"Appendix B," being the treasurer's report, shows that the entire receipts of the year, including the above sum of \$875, were \$6,610 87.

Of this sum, there was received from the treasury of the United States, for tuition and maintenance of indigent pupils, under the act of Congress approved February 16, 1857, \$2,451 96.

Also, from the same source, for salaries and incidental expenses, under the act of May 9, 1858, \$3,000 00.

For tuition and support of one paying pupil, \$158 32.

For board of a visitor, \$125.

"Appendix B continued" exhibits the superintendent's account, showing somewhat in detail the objects of expenditure, amounting to \$6,466 92, and leaving on hand the 1st of July last, \$462 73.

"Appendix C" gives the names of fourteen deaf and dumb and seven blind pupils, making in all twenty-one taught during last year.

To all which is appended a copy of the regulations.

The management of the institution by the superintendent has been highly satisfactory, and the matron and teachers have discharged their several duties with commendable fidelity.

Since the 1st of July last, the building mentioned as in progress by the superintendent in his report, has been completed, and is now occupied by the institution, not only adding much to the comfort and convenience of the superintendent, matron, teachers, and pupils, but providing accommodations for a much larger number.

This building and its conveniences has cost upwards of seven thousand dollars, and will be presented to the institution upon the sole condition that provision shall be made and continued for the instruction of the deaf and dumb and the blind of the District of Columbia by public appropriations or by private charity.

A fine stable has also been built, and other improvements made on the institution lot, by means of savings from private donations and the funds received for tuition and maintenance of pupils.

So far as regards domestic comfort, perhaps nothing is left to be desired by the institution; but it still has one serious want; that want

is, more ground for agricultural or horticultural purposes. The lot now owned and occupied by the institution contains less than three acres. It has upon it two houses and a stable. Deducting the space occupied by them, their yards and entrance, little is left for any other purposes. Owing to the beauty of the site and the superior quality of the new building, being also well fitted for a private residence, this property is very valuable, and might, with the consent of the donor, be exchanged, on favorable terms, for a suitable tract of land further from the city. In this way, an abundance of ground may be obtained for the teaching and practice of horticulture and agriculture, instruction in which, or in some other useful calling, is little less important to the deaf and dumb than intellectual culture. But, in the event of such exchange, the institution will need new buildings. When private charity has done so much, will not Congress do all that is now necessary to enable the deaf and dumb of the District, an unfortunate class of human beings, who may be expected to increase with the increase of our population, an opportunity not only to cultivate their mental faculties, but also to acquire a knowledge of some kind of business, by which they may be able to earn a living when no longer the foster-children of the public?

With high consideration, your obedient servant,

AMOS KENDALL,
President.

HON. JACOB THOMPSON,
Secretary of the Interior.

Second annual report of the Columbia Institution for the Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb and Blind, for the year ending June 30, 1859.

JAMES BUCHANAN, *President of the United States, Patron.*

HON. AMOS KENDALL, *President.*

WILLIAM STICKNEY, *Secretary.*

GEORGE W. RIGGS, jr., *Treasurer.*

WILLIAM H. EDES, JAMES C. MCGUIRE, JUDSON MITCHELL, DAVID A. HALL, REV. BYRON SUNDERLAND, D. D., *Directors.*

EDWARD M. GALLAUDET, M. A., *Superintendent.*

JAMES DENISON, (of the deaf and dumb,) MRS. MARIA M. EDDY, (of the blind,) MRS. FANNIE BROOKE, (of the blind, in music,) *Instructors.*

A. Y. P. GARNETT, M. D., *Attending Physician.*

MRS. THOMAS H. GALLAUDET, *Matron.*

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the President and Directors of the Columbia Institution for the Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind.

GENTLEMEN: Another year has passed since the date of our first annual report, and again it becomes my duty as superintendent of the institution whose affairs you direct, to make known to you the result of the year's labors.

Although every lover of his fellow-men must deeply deplore the misfortunes which render necessary the existence of such institutions as ours, yet being advised of the fact that an inscrutable Providence has, for some wise purpose, deprived many thousands in our own country alone of hearing and speech, or of sight, all must rejoice at a new chapter added to the record on high of charitable ministrations in the name of Him who made the deaf to hear and the blind to receive their sight.

During the year just closed twenty-one pupils have been connected with the institution, of which number fourteen are deaf mutes and seven are blind. Of the latter class, one has left, twenty being the number actually in attendance at the close of the summer term.

The deaf mutes have pursued a course of study similar to that adopted in the institutions at Hartford and New York, and have made commendable progress in language, arithmetic, geography, composition, and penmanship. While their intellects have thus been developed and strengthened, it is to be hoped that the religious instruction imparted regularly to them on the Sabbath, and at other times, has served to improve their moral natures, and to throw in light upon their hitherto vague and uncertain perceptions of Divine truth.

The blind have, in addition to their ordinary school exercises and studies, received instruction in vocal and instrumental music, some of them evincing decided talent, and all giving promise of success in the pursuit.

A few benevolent ladies in Georgetown, becoming much interested in the institution, raised among themselves and their friends the sum of two hundred and twenty-five dollars, with which to purchase a piano for the use of the blind pupils. A fine new instrument was obtained for two hundred dollars, and the remaining twenty-five dollars has been expended in procuring the requisite music books.

Could those who contributed to this special charity witness the pleasure which they have conferred by opening to these sons and daughters of darkness the avenues to the world of melody and harmony, they would consider themselves more than recompensed, I am confident, for the donations they so generously made.

At the time our last annual report was issued, the institution was suffering very much from the want of appropriate buildings, and a strong hope was entertained that Congress would at the then approaching session provide means for the erection of a permanent and suitable edifice. This expectation, however, owing to the condition of the national treasury, and a disinclination on the part of Congress to

make new appropriations, was not fulfilled, and the close of winter found us still much cramped for room, and entirely unable to accommodate any greater number of pupils, should applications for admission be made.

Feeling how important it was that the institution should be able to receive all those for whose benefit it was established, and unwilling that any privilege granted or advantage supplied to the inmates of other similar institutions should be withheld from ours, our honored president, with a liberality which has ever characterized his relations to the institution, offered to erect, at his own expense, a building on the lot already donated that should comfortably contain forty pupils. In furtherance of this design, a fine brick structure was commenced in April, and is now rapidly approaching completion.

When private benevolence and enterprise have done so much in a cause usually sustained by legislative appropriations, can our national law makers longer refuse to lend a helping hand towards the establishment of a home that shall, for all time, receive, instruct, and render back to society as useful citizens, a class of persons for many centuries nought but a dead weight on the community?

Some months since a tedious case of ophthalmia occurred, which, for a time, gave rise to apprehensions that the afflicted girl, a deaf mute, might have blindness added to her other infirmities. Our faithful physician, Dr. A. Y. P. Garnett, however, always attentive when any of our household need his care, was unremitting in his endeavors to effect a cure, and, with the blessing of Providence on his labors, succeeded in entirely reducing the inflammation and restoring the sight of both eyes. With this exception, we have had no serious cases of sickness during the year, the health of nearly all the inmates being uniformly good.

In view of the many mercies and blessings we have received, we cannot close this record without a devout acknowledgment of our dependence upon the Divine Ruler, and deep thankfulness for the marked success that has crowned the efforts put forth in behalf of this institution.

All which is respectfully submitted.

E. M. GALLAUDET,
Superintendent.

WASHINGTON, *July 12, 1859.*

APPENDIX A.

List of subscriptions for the year ending June 30, 1859.

Hon. Amos Kendall, (annual subscription).....	\$200 00	
James C. McGuire, (annual subscription).....	100 00	
William H. Edes, (annual subscription).....	100 00	
William W. Corcoran, (annual subscription).....	100 00	
George W. Riggs, jr., (annual subscription).....	100 00	
Jacob Gideon	50 00	
		\$650 00
Subscription raised by the ladies of Georgetown to purchase a piano and music books for the use of the blind pupils :		
A. C. Ridgely.....	25 00	
M. L. Ridgely	49 00	
Helen L. Stewart.	10 00	
W. W. Corcoran	50 00	
Cash	10 00	
Mrs. Ellen Carter	10 00	
Cash	10 00	
Cash	5 00	
Cash	5 00	
Cash	5 00	
Judge Morsell.....	10 00	
Cash	5 00	
Cash	1 00	
Cash	2 50	
Major Ridgely	30 00	
Cash	2 50	
		225 00
		875 00

APPENDIX B.

The Columbian Institution for the instruction of the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind, in account with George W. Riggs, jr., Treasurer.

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To cash advances to E. M. Gallaudet, superintendent, on draft of the President and Secretary	\$6,610 87	1858. July 3	By balance brought down By cash received from subscriptions By cash received from the United States for maintenance and tuition of beneficiaries, per act of Congress of February 16, 1857..... By cash received from the United States for salaries and incidental expenses, per act of Congress of May 29, 1858 By cash, tuition of one paying pupil..... By cash for board.....	\$0 59 875 00 2,451 96 3,000 00 158 32 125 00 6,610 87
	6,610 87			6,610 87

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WASHINGTON, July 12, 1859.

E. & O. E.

GEO. W. RIGGS, *Treasurer.*

APPENDIX B—Continued.

Superintendent's statement of receipts and expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1859.

1858.	RECEIPTS.	1859.	EXPENDITURES.	
July 3	Balance brought down.....	\$318 78	June 30 Salaries.....	2,167 88
Aug. 29	W. Stickney, secretary, on G. W. Riggs, jr., treasurer.....	150 59	Wages and labor.....	360 04
Sep. 18	Amos Kendall, president.....	100 00	Groceries.....	654 81
25	do.....do.....	75 00	Rent.....	350 00
Oct. 5	do.....do.....	700 00	Drugs and medicines.....	22 89
11	do.....do.....	350 00	Fuel and lights.....	216 94
26	do.....do.....	300 00	Hay, oats, and grain.....	200 99
Nov. 5	do.....do.....	275 00	Piano.....	200 00
20	do.....do.....	50 00	Clothing.....	73 72
Dec. 23	do.....do.....	130 00	Blacksmithing and repairing.....	60 90
1859.			Meat and fish.....	459 74
Jan. 7	do.....do.....	500 00	Traveling expenses.....	39 00
12	do.....do.....	800 00	Butter and eggs.....	139 29
Feb. 23	do.....do.....	150 00	Furniture.....	242 78
Mar. 12	do.....do.....	50 00	Hardware.....	12 25
April 11	do.....do.....	600 00	Insurance.....	25 20
15	do.....do.....	700 00	Carriage and harness.....	333 51
June 11	W. Stickney, secretary.....	183 72	Books and stationery.....	151 21
July 2	Amos Kendall, president.....	600 00	Sundries.....	195 68
9	do.....do.....	700 00	Postage.....	9 18
12	do.....do.....	196 56	Dry-goods.....	85 22
			Cakes and bread.....	10 98
			Milk.....	36 36
			Vegetables and fruit.....	70 69
			Repairs on buildings.....	347 66
			Balance.....	462 73
		6,929 65		6,929 65
	Balance brought down.....	462 73		

APPENDIX C.

List of pupils in the Institution, during the year ending June 30, 1859.

DEAF MUTES.

Name.	Residence.	Date of admission.
Blood, William.....	Washington county, D. C.....	April 16, 1857.
Brewer, John Lewis.....	Georgetown, D. C.....	August 12, 1857.
Collins, Robert S.....	Georgetown, D. C.....	January 1, 1858.
Dammann, Florence L.....	Baltimore, Maryland.....	May 9, 1859.
Henry, James.....	Washington county, D. C.....	April 16, 1857.
Hughes, Charles A.....	Washington city, D. C.....	March 18, 1859.
Hughes, Hannah M.....	Washington city, D. C.....	August 26, 1857.
Paul, Ann Eliza.....	Georgetown, D. C.....	August 7, 1857.
Quinn, John.....	Washington county, D. C.....	April 16, 1857.
Szymanoskie, Ann.....	Washington county, D. C.....	April 16, 1857.
Taylor, Willie E.....	Macon, Georgia.....	September 10, 1858.
White, Joseph.....	Washington city, D. C.....	September 14, 1857.
Williams, John.....	Washington city, D. C.....	August 3, 1857.
Winn, Isaac.....	Washington county, D. C.....	April 16, 1857.

BLIND.

Name.	Residence.	Date of admission.
Braan, Bridget.....	Georgetown, D. C.....	August 6, 1857.
Darby, Edward.....	Rockville, Maryland.....	January 12, 1858.
Donaldson, Mary M.....	Washington city, D. C.....	September 7, 1857.
Gibbons, Eliza Ann.....	Washington city, D. C.....	August 3, 1857.
Gibbons, John Turner.....	Washington city, D. C.....	August 3, 1857.
O'Connor, Daniel, jr.....	Washington city, D. C.....	June 9, 1859.
Seyes, Francis T.....	Georgetown, D. C.....	June 1, 1858.

Regulations.

1. The academic year is divided into two terms: the first beginning on the second Thursday in September, and closing the 24th of December; the second beginning the 2d of January, and closing the 1st Wednesday in July.

2. The vacations are from the 24th of December to the 2d of January, and from the first Wednesday in July to the second Thursday in September.

3. There are holidays at Thanksgiving, at Easter, and the 4th of July.

4. The pupils may visit their homes during the regular vacations and at the above-named holidays, but at no other times, unless for some special, urgent reason, and then only by permission of the superintendent of the institution.

5. The bills for the maintenance and tuition of pupils supported by their friends must be paid semi-annually, in advance.

6. The charge for pay pupils is one hundred and fifty dollars each per annum. For this sum the institution will provide tuition, board, lodging, washing, fuel, lights, and other incidental expenses of the school room.

The government of the United States defrays the expenses of those who reside in the District of Columbia, or whose parents are in the army or navy, provided they are unable to pay for their education.

It is expected that the friends of the pupils will provide them with clothing, and it is important that, upon entering or returning to the institution, they should be supplied with a sufficient amount for an entire year. All clothing should be plainly marked with the owner's name.

All letters concerning pupils, or applications for admission, whether for pay pupils or beneficiaries, should be addressed to the superintendent.